

LATE LESLER CRAWFORD, DISMISSED BY GOLFEERS.

He Was the Best Player of the St. Louis A. A. and Was Much Beloved by Those Who Played With Him--How He Converted Judge McCaffrey.

In the untimely and startlingly sudden death of Lester Crawford, golf lost an ardent follower, a fine player, a gentleman...

It was rare pleasure to play golf with Lester Crawford. He was a thorough golfer. Though he took the game up late in life, when he was 41, he became quite expert.

Poor Lester Crawford. On Friday, three days prior to his death, I remarked his splendid and robust appearance. He said: "I weigh 130 pounds, and never was physically so good in my life."

Strange that on so strong and powerful, above all so careful of his health, should die. He never drank anything. On Friday he was in the best of health, playing golf.

Mr. D. G. Taylor, who is a golfer, built on proper principles, deprecates the practice of competing on the links with other golfers on teams of more than one club.

A great many people, whose opinion he values very highly, have been gracious enough to reprimand the writer upon the matter which has appeared in the golf column of The Republic since its institution.

Once the writer followed two local golfers around eighteen holes with the intention of noting each stroke for publication. Being a golfer himself, he felt, for so long as it was really a game, that two amateurs could not go out and play a quiet game without having some one to watch them.

"Well, I do not agree with you. I do not crave publicity myself. Yet when I enter a public competition, I want to be known, for the time being, as a public character, and the public has some proper interest in my actions and has an undoubted right to be informed about my public performances."

"Hence I accept publicity with its backs and drawbacks, with composure, if not exactly with pleasure. As for having golf written up, I enjoy it as much as you do, and I am a golfer as well as a writer. I do not object to proper discussion of their golf. They do not like a golfer to be written up as if they were a curiosity or gentlemanly diversions themselves as American journalists would have it."

"Poor Lester Crawford did a very great deal for golf, and a good fellow went astray when he induced Judge James McCaffrey to take the game up," said a well-known local golfer the other day.

What a burning the grass is getting. No rain now these four weeks. There is no enough herbage on a green about St. Louis, but No. 4 and No. 6 at the Fair Grounds, to feed a grasshopper over eight.

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"The most recent trouble from this quarter occurred a few days ago when the Fair broke up the Fair, which comes right in the height of golf time. But after the Fair an open winter also that of last year will afford a lot of time for practice and little private matches which prove so interesting in the off season."

Mr. George McGrew and Mr. Julius Koehler returned from a two weeks' stay on the coast recently returned from a two-weeks' stay on Atlantic City links. Atlantic City is by the seashore. The blue ocean must have had slight charms for the St. Louisians.

Mr. Wayman Cushman, who is very well known in St. Louis, has been playing the game around New York this season. He has been holding up his end very well, indeed, with the Eastern cracker. Mr. Cushman was once a top polo player of more

than average ability. He is a fine type of man, big, lean and slimy. Recent strikes by caddies on the Cleveland links made him follow by James Murphy, editor of the Golfer, of especial interest.

When one considers the intelligence of the average caddy, it is little wonder that the ability prevails regarding the authenticity of the stories attributed to him. Recently, however, in the reminiscences of an ancient golfer, we came across an anecdote which is a good example of the kind of thing that is said about caddies.

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COLLEGES MAKE READY FOR FOOTBALL SEASON. Every Other Athletic Pastime Must Make Way for the Gridiron War--Brilliant Athletic Future of America.

Eastern colleges are already preparing for the football season. The various educational institutions that boast Rugby football teams in St. Louis have not as yet made any move in that line. Other colleges are quietly hustling for the crack coaches.

By C. R. McCarthey. Eastern colleges are already preparing for the football season. The various educational institutions that boast Rugby football teams in St. Louis have not as yet made any move in that line.

Everything else is put aside East to give the football men full swing. As in former years, the big colleges are having a great deal of trouble in getting their teams together.

The National Tennis Association has a special clause in its rules against professionalism. No player is to receive unless it bears the player's real name and the name of the club to which he belongs.

There is a game that seldom gives any other game the concentration of the gridiron. There is never any professionalism in it, although there have been isolated cases.

Improvements Are Well Chosen--Sideline Coaching Restricted. The revised football rules for 1900 are now in the hands of the printers and will be published within the next fortnight.

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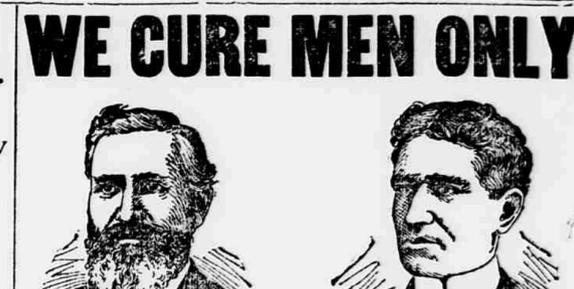
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